

NEWS RELEASE



Date: May 14, 2012
District 7: Los Angeles & Ventura Counties
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Caltrans, City of Ventura, and Union Pacific Railroad To Abate Graffiti from Trestle above the Ventura Freeway (US 101)

VENTURA – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the City of Ventura, and Union Pacific Railroad have collaborated to create a long-term solution to improve the trestle above US 101 in downtown Ventura that includes clearing graffiti, installing surveillance cameras, new lighting and fencing, and other physical barriers to deter pedestrian trespassers.

“We are committed to keeping Ventura safe and clean,” said Mayor Mike Tracy. “Responsibly maintaining our environment will help promote prosperity and improve the quality of life for residents and visitors to Ventura.”

Through a cost sharing effort, Union Pacific and the City of Ventura will fund the painting of the bridge; Caltrans will close US 101 during work hours, clear graffiti and repaint the bridge; traffic control measures will be in place to direct motorists to alternate routes. .

“The improvements to the trestle will benefit the residents and businesses in Ventura and the view of motorists in the 94,000 vehicles that pass this location daily,” said Deputy District 7 Director of Maintenance Dan Freeman. “This unique partnership is a win-win situation for all of those involved.”

Surveillance cameras installed to monitor the trestle will serve to capture vandals and trespassers. The City's Graffiti ordinance provides for full cost recovery in addition to penalties of \$1000 per occurrence, and violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. To protect the improvements over the long term, the City of Ventura's crews and volunteers will remove any new graffiti.

Nightly full freeway closures. Signed detours will be provided.

Southbound US 101 will be closed between Ventura Avenue/Thompson Boulevard to Chestnut Avenue during the following days and times:



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Friday, May 18 through Saturday, May 19
11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Saturday, May 19 to Sunday, May 20
11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Sunday, May 20 to Monday, May 21
11 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Southbound US 101 detour:

Exit at Ventura Avenue/Thompson Boulevard
South of Thompson Boulevard to Chestnut Street on-ramp to enter southbound US 101

Northbound US 101 will be closed between Seaward Avenue and South Oak Street during the following days and times:

Friday, June 8 to Saturday, June 9
11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Saturday, June 9 to Sunday, June 10
11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Sunday, June 10 to Monday, June 11
11 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Northbound US 101 detour:

Exit at Seaward Avenue
Turn right to access South Thompson Boulevard
Turn left on South Thompson Boulevard to South Oak Street
Then turning left to access northbound 101

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